Demand to amend NAIS

1692. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:
SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that it would be useful for farmers if National Agricultural Insurance Scheme covers before sowing or planting rather than the present method of coverage;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the farming community and others have been demanding for (a) above; and

(c) if so, the reasons for not accepting the above genuine demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The losses caused to crops from sowing to harvesting only are covered under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS). Coverage of pre-sowing or planting would be useful for farmers who are not able to sow/plant their crops due to deficit rainfall or adverse weather conditions though they had intension of doing so, and had incurred the expenditure.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Keeping in view the suggestions of States/UTs and other stake-holders, a Joint Group was constituted by the Government, to study the improvements required in the existing crop insurance schemes. The Group has reviewed the scheme and made important recommendations including coverage of pre-sowing/planting period. Based on these recommendations a proposal on Modified NAIS has been prepared.

Delay in paying claims of AP MARKFED

1693. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:
SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry is taking a long time for verifying and approving claims of Andhra Pradesh State Cooperative Marketing Federation Ltd. (AP MARKFED);

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that claims of AP MARKFED are languishing in his Ministry from 2003-04, till date;

(c) if so, the reasons for such an enormous delay; and

(d) the manner in which his Ministry is planning to address this issue and cut the time and pay the claims of AP MARKFED within six months of submission?